



(Header by Sven)

## June 2024

Welcome to our new readers. You are welcome to contribute to the newsletter.

Russ has had a very busy few weeks with lots of gigs. Ian has been keeping us all informed and this month he has written his diary for the concert in Halle. As it would make the newsletter very long, I am sending it out in a separate email, as I did for RmC, soon after this newsletter. It will have the subject heading - Russ Ballard News - Halle Diary. It will be identical to the diary on Russ's Facebook page so many of you will have read it already.

Almost half of you will receive this newsletter from the new email address. There was a glitch when I transferred all the contacts over but I am gradually working through that. I have been told that some of the new ones are going into junk folders. If you don't receive it once you are switched over, please look there. If you add the email address to your contacts, there is less chance of that happening. So they tell me! When I first asked the tech expert for advice, he said it was very likely that some newsletters weren't being delivered via Outlook and I would have no way of knowing. So it might be possible that some people could receive it via the new email after they haven't received it for some time. It would be

interesting to know if that is happening, if you would let me know. If you haven't received it for a while and you no longer want to receive it, please tell me and I will remove you from the contact list. I am keeping the Outlook account open so it is possible that you could receive it twice. Please let me know about that too so I can put it right. On the new email I am getting fewer returned as undelivered so it is already working better.  
Sue

## **THIS MONTH - RUSS'S DIARY**

*The Casino, Estoril.*

*Once again Roly Jones, Marc Rapson, PJ Phillips, John Miller and myself played a concert in Estoril, Portugal - The venue was The Casino...A vast space, which is not only a casino but also an entertainment venue, which can hold an audience of two thousand.*

*After flying from Stansted, on the afternoon of May 9th, we were met at Lisbon airport by my friend, promoter Emanuel, who was accompanied by friends and family. After throwing our bags and guitars into the truck, Emanuel headed to a restaurant where we were met by his family and most of his friends. Emanuel lives life to the full, so, as usual, there was a wonderful spread of food and wine. Around about midnight we checked in to the Hotel Amazonia...it had been a long day and crashed out in bed.*

*The next morning at breakfast I met Ian Street and his wife Karen (who live in Portugal). We decided to take a walk along by the sea - the weather was stunning and as we walked, Ian mentioned another mutual friend who had flown in from Switzerland to Estoril to see the show. His name is Roland Hertzog (also known as The Duke). I suggested Ian should phone The Duke and invite him on the walk. It really was a hot morning and it seemed most of the local men were bare chested and soaking up the vitamin D.*

*A few hours later, we were ready for lunch and we were pleased that Emanuel had reserved nine places at the wonderful Chinese restaurant situated next to the Casino.*

*The band sound check was set for 4 o'clock, which, glad to say, was hitch free. We took the stage at eight o'clock, the venue was packed and the audience roared after Ian had introduced the band, then myself. Each song was greeted*

*with great enthusiasm. I felt the group were really on form, and when they are, there's none better. After an hour and half we left the stage....it was a great feeling playing my songs, hearing the audience singing the choruses back to us... Oh, life doesn't get better than this....We fell into bed in the early hours....exhausted and happy....Emanuel, "We look forward to the next one" - Please!!*

*Lots of Love to you all,  
Russ xxx  
I will write about Halle next month.*

## **RUSS - LIFE STORIES**

*Back to early autumn, 1963 - The Roulettes*

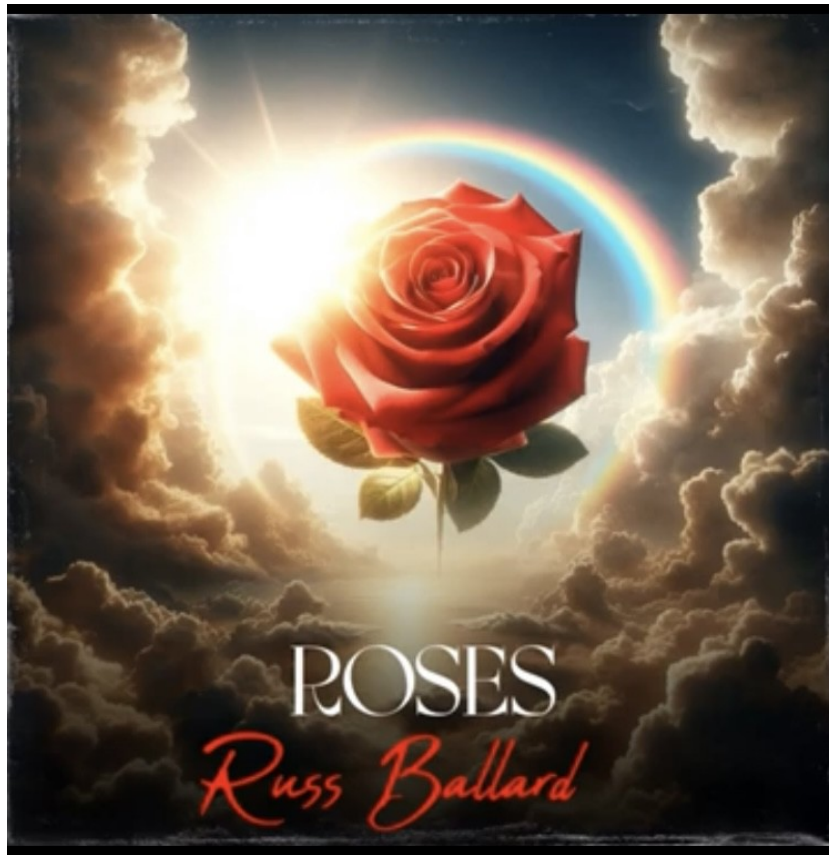
*With the 'beat' explosion and the Adam Faith resurgence, it was thought a good idea to do a 'Package Tour'...with some of the new chart stars, like Brian Poole and The Tremeloes, who were from London, and were also in the Charts with 'Twist and Shout' and Do You Love - Me? Dave Berry and The Cruisers, the Sheffield group who were becoming popular after releasing My Baby Left Me, a cover of the Arthur Crudup song that had been a hit for Elvis in the fifties. Also on the tour, two Liverpool groups, The Searchers and The Undertakers. The Searchers were one of the biggest Merseyside groups, along with The Beatles and Gerry and The Pacemakers.*

*It would be my first package tour. I'd heard about them from John Rogers, who had toured with Dave Sampson and The Hunters on a Cliff Richard and The Shadows tour. John told of the hours of boredom on the tour bus, travelling hundreds of miles from town to town, and how they found of ways of alleviating the tedium, by throwing things at pedestrians...sometimes it would be small bags of flour, or if you were on of the lucky people on the pavement you would have coins hitting you on the back. Apparently it was amusing to see people scrambling for the small coins rattling on the curb stones.  
To be continued....*

## **FAKE MUSIC**

*This track has been appearing all over the place. We have no idea what it is. It has been suggested that it could be AI generated. It has nothing to do with Russ*

but has his name on it and it is being added to his playlists in various places. We have reported it on YouTube, Spotify and Apple Music. If you see it, please report it. If enough people do, it just might make a difference.



## VIDEO OF THE MONTH

This video has recently been put onto YouTube. A great quick summary of some of Russ's best known hit songs. Less than 5 minutes long.



Russ Ballard - Rock's Secret Weapon  
StrangeDevice • 658 views • 8 days ago




<https://youtu.be/7xXq9jF9vak?si=Wo9qDw3We8eDMfYE>

## AMATEUR HOUR

by Dave Williams

There are some very talented studio-based artists out there, including of course, **Chris Ballard** and **Marc Rapson**, so its always good to keep an eye out for re-mixed versions of well-known songs. It seems that Voices is a song that gains a lot of attention, and this re-mixed version by Italian DJ-Producer Maxi BodyAlive, is one I particularly like. This guy has created over 500 mixes of hits by famous artists, so he clearly enjoys what he is doing. He bases his work on the original audio multi-tracks.

Here's his re-mixed version of Voices [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nRWdyfiDmM&list=RD8nRWdyfiDmM&start\\_radio=1&rv=b3BNAPzVk00](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nRWdyfiDmM&list=RD8nRWdyfiDmM&start_radio=1&rv=b3BNAPzVk00)

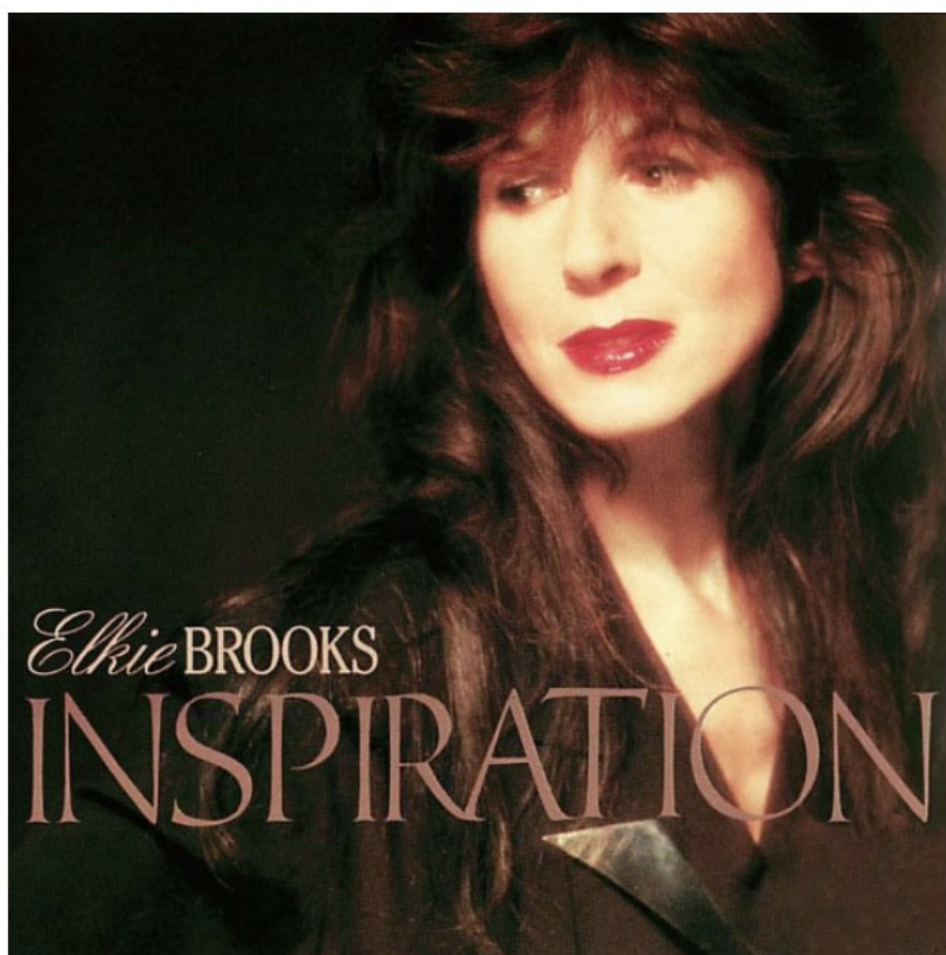
	<p><a href="#">Russ Ballard - Voices (BodyAlive Remix) ★HQ AUDIO FULL VERSION★</a></p> <p>Download HIGH QUALITY copy of my remixes here! <a href="https://ko-fi.com/djbodyaliveMy">https://ko-fi.com/djbodyaliveMy</a> full remix discography is here <a href="http://Ko-fi.com/dj">http://Ko-fi.com/dj</a></p>
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## DAVE'S COVER QUEST

Russ Ballard's association with Elkie Brooks is mainly known for the four of his songs that featured on her 1986 album **No More the Fool**, which included the single of the same name. Many are probably unaware that two albums later, Elkie recorded three more Russ Ballard songs, one of which features as this month's Cover Quest song.

**No.70**





### Three Wishes by Elkie Brooks

**Inspiration**, the 1989 album by **Elkie Brooks**, is a mixture of cover versions and original tracks and was recorded at Abbey Road Studios, RPM Studios, Pavilion Studios, Rock House and Woody Bay Studios. The album was issued on CD, vinyl and cassette in 1989 through Telstar Records, and re-released by Ronco in 1993. Russ produced all three of his songs and here is one of them, **Three Wishes**. Instantly recognisable as Russ, I think.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKPVqC8k4G8>



[Elkie Brooks "Three Wishes"](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zKPVqC8k4G8)

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